reservation in Grops 'C' and 'D' posts in State Government Departments and its Undertakings.

A number of Central schemes provide self-employment opportunities to ex-servicemen. These include the SEMFEX-I scheme which provides financial assistance for seeting up small industrial projects; the SEMFEX-II scheme to take up gainful farm and non-farm activities in rural areas; SEMFEX-III scheme to provide self-employment opportunities through promotion of Khadi & Village Industries in the rural areas, preferential allotment of Petroleum product Agencies to war widows and disabled ex-servicemen, allotment of Unit Trust of India Agencies etc. Training programmes are arranged for improving their employability. Ex-servicemen are authorised free medical facilities in military hospitals and canteen facilities at the nearest CSD canteens. Recipients of gallantry awards are given 50% concessions for air travel in the domestic sector and rail travel in second class. The ex-servicemen, who are in penury, are given financial assistance out of the welfare funds at the disposal of Raksha Mantri.

During the year 1993, 133 ex-servicemen and in 1994, 159 ex-servicemen were provided re-employemnt in Government jobs. Under SEMFEX-I scheme, 65 ex-servicemen from Gujarat have been provided financial assistance worth Rs. 3,12,95,000/- since the inception of the scheme in April 1987. Under SEMFEX-II scheme, 17 ex-servicemen from the State have been benefited and provided financial assistance of Rs. 28.13 lakhs. Two ex-servicemen have been provided loans amounting to Rs. 12.72 lakhs by Bombay Mercantile Bank under Commercial Bank Loan scheme during 1994.

Ex-Servicemen can take medical treatment from the nearest Military Hospital. In addition, during 1993 and 1994, a total of 8 ex-servicemen have been provided medical re-imbursement amounting to Rs. 30,800/- for treatment of serious diseases from Armed Forces Flag Day Fund.

Plans of DOE to Promote use of Hindi Language

7267. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Electronics have chalked out any plan to promote use of Hindi language in its administration and other technical wings;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the various schemes formulated and being implemented by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The Department of Electronics has been implementing various provisions of the Official Language Act and Rules and the Annual Programme framed thereunder by the Government of India, Department of Official Language.

(c) In order to promote use of Hindi in technical aspects, in addition to the schemes already prescribed by the Government, the following specific schemes have been framed and are being implemented in the Department;

(i) Financial assistance for writing original books on Electronics in Hindi;

(ii) Financial assistance for translation of books on Electronics in Hindi;

(iii) National awards for original books on electronics in Hindi;

(iv) Department of electronics Rajbhasha Shield; and

(v) Grant of honorarium for writing technical articles in Hindi for the quarterly magazine titled 'Electroniki Bharati'.